

EPA-PNL-328

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To Phil North

cc

bcc

Subject EPA Assessment Flawed

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Pebble Update
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Pebble Partnership, Industry, Technical Professionals Question Legitimacy and Intent of Draft Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment

Assessment fundamentally flawed technically, scientifically and on a regulatory basis

Challenging the process undertaken by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) for its draft Bristol Bay watershed assessment, the [Pebble Partnership](#) calls the document inadequate, rushed, inaccurate and deeply flawed.

The EPA has ignored the strong objections to the assessment's legality by the state of [Alaska Attorney General](#), who has written the EPA on numerous occasions questioning the interference

and noting Alaska's right to manage its own resources granted as part of Statehood. The Pebble Deposit is located on state land identified for mineral exploration and development as part of the Alaska Statehood Act.

The EPA has also dismissed the voice of 10 of the 12 [Alaska Native Regional Corporations](#), Village Corporations, Tribal governments and thousands of Alaska residents including hundreds from the region who asked to extend the public comment period in order to allow for more meaningful review and participation. Concern has been expressed related to the short review window allowed by the EPA and the potential future impacts any preemptive rulings may have on the state's ability to manage its own land and additional far-reaching effects actions could have on Alaska Native owned land.

In response to the draft assessment, the [Pebble Partnership](#) Monday submitted a packet of materials to the EPA including a legal analysis, scientific and engineering reviews and a regulatory evaluation of the assessment. [Read the news release...](#)



Handy links:

[Alaska Resource Development Council](#)
[Alaska Miners Association](#)
[United States Geological Survey](#)
[Alaska Department of Natural Resources](#)
[Alaska Division of Mining, Land and Water](#)
[Alaska Department of Fish & Game](#)
[Truth About Pebble](#)
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